



## Suggested Discussion Questions

*Here are some discussion suggestions for Sunday-school teachers, homeschoolers, or just starting a conversation with your kids.*

*To use these questions, read through WE PRAY slowly with the children. You can ask some or all of these questions as you go, page by page. The questions are grouped by page numbers.*

### page number

Do you recognize the icon that the angels are holding in the first picture?

1

Do you know the story of Abraham and the three angels? Do you know what it teaches us about God?

Does your family pray every day? What is your family prayer rule?

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Where have you seen lamps like this before? Do you have a prayer lamp at home?

2-3

Who is the woman in the icon picture? Why do you think she is bigger than the churches in icons like this?

Who is the Theotokos looking at? What is he doing?

Do you see the different kinds of plants and islands in the icon picture? Why do you think they are different?

Do you ever pray in front of icons? Do you ask the saints to pray for you?

Who is your patron saint? Do you know their story? Do you have any other favourite saints?

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What is the thing that the angel is swinging in the picture?

4-5

Do you light incense when you pray? What does incense smell like? How does the smell make you feel?

Who is the man in black sitting on the rock? What is he holding in his hands?

4-5 cont.

Why do you think the children are sitting in front of the man? What do you think they are learning from him?

Do you ever use a prayer rope when you pray? Do you know how to count the knots? What prayer do you say when you use your prayer rope?

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Who is the man next to the deer in the picture? Where does he live? Why is he special?

6

The deer and the man are very close together--do they look like friends? Why do you think that holy saints are so often friends with animals? Why aren't the animals afraid?

Whose hand is in the corner of the picture? What is he doing?

Do you have a prayer book at home? Do you know any prayers by heart?

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7

Can you recite the "Our Father?" Why do we call God "Father?"

Do you know the story of how Jesus taught us to pray the "Our Father?"

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Do you know the words of the Jesus prayer? If you don't, you'll find them in the picture.

8-9

Do you recognize the man inside the heart in the picture? Why is he in a heart shape?

What are all the children doing? Why do you think the Jesus prayer fills them with happiness?

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Who is the man in the picture? Do you know the story of King David?

10-11

Why is King David playing a harp? Why are his eyes closed? How do you think King David is feeling as he prays?

Do you know any Psalms? Do you recognize the words in the picture? When have you heard them before?

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12-13

Do you read the Gospel and Epistle every day?

Do you know why there are animals and an angel on the sails of the boats?  
Do you recognize the names on the sides of the boats?

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Do you pray for your family and the people you love?

Why is the family in a tree in the picture?

14-15

Do you recognize the symbol inside the heart on the tree?

Do you ever pray when you are sad or for other people who are sad? Does it make you feel better?

Do you pray when you are joyful, or other people are? How does praying when you're happy make you feel?

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Who are the people in the special clothing inside the circles?

16

Who is your priest? Do you pray for him?

Do you know your bishop? Do you pray for him?

Have you met any monks or nuns? What were their names? Do you pray for them?

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Who are the people inside the hand? Do they seem happy?

17

Whose hand is holding them? What does this picture teach us about what happens when we die?

Has anyone you love ever died? Do you pray for that person?

Why do you think we pray for people who are dead? Do you think some of them pray for us?

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18-19

Look at the pictures of the churches--are they all in the same place?

Have you ever visited other churches far away? What was the same as your church at home? What was different?



Do you pray for everyone in the world? Why do you think the world needs our prayers?

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What are the four angels holding? Why is the cross bright and golden?

20-21

How do the angels feel in the picture? Why are they happy to be holding the cross?

After you've done something wrong, what do you do? Do you ever pray for forgiveness? Do you go to confession? How do you feel after you ask God to forgive you?

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What are the angel and the boy looking at in the picture? Why does the boy have his arms crossed looking at the night sky?

22-23

Do you ever look at the stars in the sky? How do you feel when looking at them? Do you think that God's creation is beautiful?

Do you ever pray silently? Do you ever try to quiet your mind and think only of God? How do you feel when you sit very quietly?

Does prayer always have to use words?

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What is the big cup in the picture? Why do you think the artists made it bigger than the other things in the picture?

Where is the family in the picture going? How do they feel about going to church?

24-25

What are the creatures with wings in the pictures? Have you ever seen angels that look like this in icons? How many wings do the angels have?

Do you go to vespers and liturgy each week? What kinds of things do we pray for in church?

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What are the children in the picture doing? Who is giving them communion? How can you tell that it is Jesus?

26-27

Why did the artists show Jesus giving the children communion?

Do you think the angels help us like the angel in the picture is helping the boy?

Do you ever pray for God to be close to you? Do you ever ask the Spirit to show you the right things to do and say?

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Do you ever ask God to make you strong and help you to do things that are hard? Do you ever ask God to help you pray?

How do you think we can help other people around us to pray?